

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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> > JOHN CHIANG

State Controller

January 28, 2010

RAMON J. HIRSIG **Executive Director** 

### Dear Interested Party:

**VIA INTERNET** 

The Sales and Use Tax Department is proposing to revise Compliance Policy and Procedures Manual (CPPM) Chapter 9, Miscellaneous. Regulation 1807, Petitions for Reallocation of Local Tax, was revised in 2008 to provide a more comprehensive process for review of petitions for local tax reallocation, to eliminate unnecessary review levels, to restructure the request for extension process, and to provide notification of substantially affected jurisdictions at an earlier level so that a single process will resolve disputes. CPPM Chapter 9 was extensively revised to incorporate these changes and update the text throughout the chapter. The text of the revisions to Chapter 9, provided in the following pages, includes the proposed changes summarized below. Contact information is provided on page 2 of this letter.

<u>Sections</u>	Summary of Revisions
901.010	Updated and added definitions to conform with revised Reg. 1807(a). Deleted extraneous subheadings 905.011, 905.012, 905.013, and 905.014.
905.020	Made minor text revisions
905.030	Deleted last paragraph of section to conform to revised Reg. 1807(a)(5).
905.040	Deleted unnecessary one-sentence section.
905.041	Deleted because the text does not conform with revised Reg. 1807(b)(6) and the subject matter is covered in section 905.060.
905.042	Same as 905.041.
905.050	Deleted existing section 905.050, <i>Review Process</i> , because it was superseded by changes to Reg. 1807.
905.051	Deleted existing section 905.051, <i>Auditor's Investigation</i> , and re-numbered as new section 905.050, <i>Review by the Audit Determination and Refund Section</i> . Incorporated changes to revised Reg. 1807, regarding changes to the review process.
905.052	Deleted existing section 905.052, <i>Review by the Allocation Group Supervisor</i> , as those procedures have been incorporated into section 905.050.

<u>Sections</u>	Summary of Revisions
905.053 905.054 905.055	"Review by the Refund Section Supervisor", "Review by the Local Tax Appeals Auditor", and "Review by Board Management" have been deleted as the described review processes have been eliminated.
905.057	"Petition for Hearing" section deleted; information included in 905.060.
905.058	"Persons to Be Notified of the Board Hearing" section deleted; information included in 905.010 and 905.075
905.060	Replaced "Time Limitations" section with new section, "Review by Appeals Section." Deadlines are discussed in new sections 905.050, 905.060, and 905.070.
905.070	Replaced "Appeal Rights of Jurisdictions that Will Lose Revenue as the Result of a Reallocation" with new section, "Review by Board Members." New appeal procedures explained in new sections 905.050, 905.060, and 905.070.
905.090	Revised the information pertaining to Revenue and Taxation Code section 6006.3 inquiries, to conform to Regulation 1807(f). Deleted the last paragraph containing the transition rule information. It is unnecessary to include this information in the CPPM as it will not apply to new cases.
906.000	Deleted sections 906.010 through 906.040 and renumbered sections 906.050 and 906.060 as new numbers 906.010 and 905.015.

If you have any comments or suggestions related to the proposed changes described above, you may contact the Sales and Use Tax Department on or before March 26, 2010. Comments or suggestions regarding this material should be directed to the Sales and Use Tax Compliance Manual Coordinator at <a href="mailto:CPPM.RevisionSuggestions@boe.ca.gov">CPPM.RevisionSuggestions@boe.ca.gov</a>, or you may submit your comments or suggestions to:

Mr. Dave Rosenthal
Sales and Use Tax Department (MIC 50)
State Board of Equalization
P.O. Box 942879
Sacramento, CA 94279-0050
E-mail: dave.rosenthal@boe.ca.gov

# LOCAL TAXING JURISDICTION REVIEW OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION RECORDS

901.000

BACKGROUND 901.010

Revenue and Taxation Code Section 7056 (b) allows local taxing jurisdiction(s) (LTJ) and special taxing jurisdiction(s) (STJ) representative(s) to view confidential taxpayer file information pertaining to their LTJ or STJ under specific circumstances. Primarily, the governing board of the jurisdiction must adopt a resolution authorizing an individual or individuals to view confidential material. The resolution must also contain language restricting the use of the acquired information to governmental purposes. Revenue and Taxation Code (RTC) section 7056(b) allows representatives of jurisdictions imposing taxes under the Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law (RTC section 7200, et seq.) and jurisdictions imposing taxes under the Transactions and Use Tax Law (RTC section 7251, et seq.), to view confidential taxpayer records pertaining to the jurisdictions they represent. For a person representing a jurisdiction to gain such access to confidential taxpayer records, the legislative body of the jurisdiction must adopt a resolution designating the representative as a person authorized to view such confidential taxpayer records on the jurisdiction's behalf. Unless the person so designated is an officer or employee of the jurisdiction, the resolution must certify that the designated person has an existing contract with the jurisdiction to examine taxpayer records of the Board of Equalization (BOE) pertaining to the ascertainment of the local or district tax to be collected by the BOE on the jurisdiction's behalf and, pursuant to that contract:

- May disclose information from those confidential taxpayer records only to an officer or employee of the jurisdiction who is also authorized by the resolution to examine the records;
- Is prohibited from performing consulting services for a retailer during the term of that contract; and
- 3. Is prohibited from retaining the information from the confidential taxpayer records after that contract has expired. Information obtained by examination of the confidential taxpayer records may be used only for purposes related to the collection of the local or district tax or for purposes related to other governmental functions of the jurisdiction.

RESOLUTIONS 901.020

The Local Revenue Allocation Section Unit (LRASLRAU) is responsible for determining whether a particular jurisdiction has adopted a valid resolution authorizing their employees and/or consultants an employee, officer, or other person to view confidential taxpayer records pursuant to RTC Section Section 7056. Jurisdiction representatives and consultants may only inspect file information for taxpayers of the jurisdiction they represent. For example, a jurisdiction representative/consultant authorized by a resolution adopted by the City of Sacramento shall only be given access to file information on taxpayers with retail sales locations in, or local tax allocated to, the City of Sacramento. In addition, a representative/consultant may review the file of a taxpayer reporting tax to the jurisdiction's countywide pool and/or statewide pool. Representatives/consultants of STJs with boundaries coterminous with county boundaries, may obtain the countywide pool data for the county in which the STJ is located. Representatives/consultants for the Bay Area Rapid Transit District may obtain the countywide pool data for Alameda County, Contra Costa County, and the City and County of San Francisco. Representatives/consultants of STJs are not authorized to view statewide pool data. A duly designated person may only inspect taxpayer records of the jurisdiction(s) that person

represents, that is, the person will be given access to file information only for taxpayers with retail sales locations in, or local or district tax allocated to, the particular jurisdiction(s) the person represents. Such information includes files of taxpayers reporting tax to that jurisdiction's countywide pool or taxpayers reporting tax to the statewide pool since the jurisdiction shares in those taxes (note, however, that there is no statewide pool for taxes imposed under the Transactions and Use Tax Law). A representative of a district encompassing more than one county (such as the Bay Area Rapid Transit District) may obtain the countywide pool data for each county within that district.

The <u>Audit Determination and Refunds Section (ADRS)</u> and district offices <u>should must</u> verify with <u>LRASU</u> that <u>representatives/consultants a person seeking access to confidential taxpayer records on behalf of a jurisdiction imposing local or district tax is <u>are</u> authorized by a valid resolution <u>of that jurisdiction prior</u> to allowing the<u>mat person</u> access to confidential <u>file information taxpayer records</u>. This verification may be done by telephone. If <u>LRASU</u> does not have a copy of a valid resolution on file, the <u>representative/consultant person</u> must provide a certified copy of the <u>document qualifying resolution</u>, which should be faxed by <u>prior to being allowed access to confidential file information</u>, <u>subject to confirmation by the LRASADRS or the district office to LRAU</u>. The <u>Refunds Section and district office should fax the certified resolution to LRAS</u> for verification that the resolution meets all the administrative criteria required to authorize the <u>representative/consultant person to view confidential taxpayer records</u>. If the resolution does *not* meet the criteria, the</u>

RESOLUTIONS (CONT.) 901.020

<u>representative/consultantperson\_should\_must\_be advised that, pending receipt of an acceptable resolution, access to confidential file material must\_will be denied.</u>

Questions regarding the validity of resolutions, or other resolution-related issues should be directed to LRASLRAU.

## REQUEST TO REVIEW TAXPAYER RECORDS MAINTAINED BY HEADQUARTERS

901.030

Requests for review of taxpayer records by jurisdiction representatives or their consultants to review taxpayer records should be forwarded to the Refunds Section ADRS for processing. The Refunds Section ADRS will verify that a valid resolution is on file and will order the requested files from the Taxpayer Records Unit for review. The Refunds Section ADRS will then review each file to locate and remove any non-disclosable material information not subject to disclosure prior to presenting the file to the requester for review.

The representative/consultantrequester will be required to complete a Form BOE–755, Authorized Examination of Board Records, for each file reviewed. The completed Form BOE–755 should detail the specific documents reviewed, including the time period of returns or other documents. Each completed Form BOE–755 will then be filed\_included\_in the taxpayer's file\_of the account reviewed.

The Refunds Section ADRS shall provide space for the <u>requester's</u> examination of files by the <u>representative/consultant</u>-in an observable area. Upon request, the Refunds Section ADRS will also make copies of file material at no charge to the representative/consultant.

#### REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER INFORMATION AT DISTRICT OFFICE

901.040

Requests for information records maintained at the district office level by jurisdiction's representatives or consultants should be forwarded to either the District Principal Auditor (DPA) or the District Principal Compliance Supervisor (DPCS). The DPA or DPCS will verify, who will confirm with LRAS LRAU that a valid resolution is on file. See 901.020 for guidance in situations where a jurisdiction is not listed in "Jurisdictions Having Resolutions." Audit or compliance staff, who arewhen contacted directly by a representative/consultantperson seeking access to taxpayer records on a jurisdiction's behalf, must inform and consult with the District Principal Auditor or District Principal Compliance Supervisor before acting on the request.

If the request concerns the examination of a district file, ifand such a file exists, a review of the that district file must be made to locate and remove non-disclosableany material not subject to disclosure prior to presenting the file to the requester for review. The representative/consultantrequester shall only be given access only to these district files of taxpayers with retail sales locations in, or for which the retailer allocates local or district tax allocated to, the jurisdiction on behalf of whomfor which the requester is authorized to view confidential taxpayer informationa valid resolution was passed. Care must be taken to ensure that the representative/consultantrequester is given access only to district file informationtaxpayer records that pertain to the authorizing jurisdiction and not to any other jurisdiction.

The representative/consultantrequester shall be required to must complete a Form BOE-755 for each file reviewed. The completed form BOE-755 should detail what the specific documents were reviewed, and including the time period of tax returns and/or dates of other documents.

The district office will provide space for the examination of files by the representative/consultantrequester in an observable area. \_Upon request, the district office will also make copies of file material at no charge to the representative/consultant.

The original <u>Form BOE-755</u>, completed at the district <u>leveloffice</u>, should be sent to the taxpayer's file <u>in-maintained by headquarters</u>. A copy of the <u>BOE-755form</u> may be <u>filed included</u> in the taxpayer's district audit or regular file.

"Non-Disclosable information not subject to disclosure" includes:

- Memoranda to or from the Legal <u>Division Department</u> marked "Confidential: Attorney Client Privilege." (<u>Due to changes in Board policy in this area, not all documents are appropriately marked. If you question whether a document has been appropriately marked as confidential, or believe that a document should be so marked, contact the author of the document or the Legal <u>Division Department for guidance. See explanation below regarding documents incorrectly marked, or not marked, as confidential.</u>)</u>
- 2. Memoranda directly related to litigation in which the BoardBOE is a party, including refund and collection actions.
- 3. Memoranda to or from the Attorney General's office when the Attorney General is acting as the BoardBOE's attorney.
- 4. Documents which relate to an *ongoing* criminal investigation.
- 5. •Federal or state income tax returns.
- 6. Any information in the taxpayer's file that does not pertain to that taxpayer.

Internal memoranda, other than those specified above, are normally not to be regarded as confidential unless so marked. (Due to changes in <a href="Board\_BOE">Board\_BOE</a> policy in this area, not all documents are appropriately marked. If you question whether a document has been appropriately marked as confidential, or believe that a document should be so marked, contact the author of the document, the <a href="Board's\_BOE's">Board's\_BOE's</a> Disclosure Officer in ISAD, or the Legal <a href="Division\_Department">Division</a> Department for guidance.)

## INSPECTION OF REQUEST FOR TAXPAYER INFORMATION RECORDS IN ON-SCREEN (IRIS\ AND ACMS) 901.060

Some representatives/consultants have found it useful to view information concerning specific payments on-screen. If such a request is made, only Board employees should access the information and print out the information for the consultant. Under no circumstances should a representative/consultant be given access to the computer terminal. The representative/consultant will be required to complete a BOE-755 for each account accessed from the computer system by the Board employee. There are no circumstances under which a jurisdiction's representative may be given unrestricted or unsupervised access to the IRIS or ACMS systems. In order to request records concerning specific taxpayer payments, the requester must complete a Form BOE-755, Authorized Examination Of Board Records, for each IRIS or ACMS account and specify the documents or confidential information being requested. When completed properly, BOE-755 meets the accounting requirements of the Information Practices Act, Civil Code section 1798.25.

Each Form BOE-755 must be verified to ensure that the requester is authorized to receive information pursuant to the Board of Equalization Administrative Manual sections 7207 – 7214 or RTC section 7056. The requestor must sign and date the BOE-755.

<u>Using IRIS or ACMS, a BOE employee will access the requested information, e.g., 2QXX local tax breakdown, and the consultant can then record the amount of local tax allocated to that particular jurisdiction, or other information as specified on the BOE-755.</u>

# PROCESS FOR REVIEWING LOCAL TAX REALLOCATION PETITIONSINQUIRIES

905.000

DEFINITIONS 905.010

#### INQUIRING JURISDICTIONS AND THEIR CONSULTANTS (IJC)

905.011

Means any city, county, city and county, or transactions and use tax district of this state which has adopted a sales or transactions and use tax ordinance and which has entered into a contract with the Board to perform all functions incidental to the administration or operation of the sales or transactions and use tax ordinance of the city, county, city and county, or transactions and use tax district of this state. Except for submittals under Revenue and Taxation Code section 6066.3, ICJ also includes and consultant that has entered into an agreement with the city, county, city and county, or transactions and use tax district, and has a current resolution filed with the Board which authorizes one (or more) of its officials, employees, or other designated persons to examine—the appropriate sales, transactions, and use tax records of the Board...

## CLAIM (INQUIRY) OF INCORRECT OR NON-DISTRIBUTION OF LOCAL TAX 905.012 Petition

<u>Except for submittals under Revenue and Taxation Code section 6066.3, "claim or inquiry from an IJC a jurisdiction for investigation of suspected improper distribution misallocation of local tax or district tax submitted to the Allocation Group, except for a submission under RTC section 6066.3. (See CPPM 905.090 for RTC section 6066.3 inquiries.) The inquiry petition must contain sufficient factual data to support the probability that local tax has been erroneously allocated and distributed. Sufficient factual data must should include, at a minimum all of the following for each business location being questioned:</u>

- 1. Taxpayer name, including owner name and fictitious business name or dba (doing business as) designation.
- 2. Taxpayer's permit number or a notation stating "No permit number."
- 3. Complete business address of the taxpayer.
- 4. Complete description of taxpayer's business activity or activities(ies).
- 5. Specific reasons and evidence why the taxpayer's allocation is questioned. If the petition alleges (In cases where it is submitted that the location of the sale is an unregistered location, evidence that the unregistered location is a selling location or is a place of business, as defined by Regulation 1802, Place of Sale and Use for Purposes of Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Taxes must be submitted. In cases that involve shipments from an out-of-state location and claims that the tax is sales tax and not use tax, evidence must be submitted that there was participation by an in-state office of the out-of-state retailer and that title to the goods passed in this state.) If the petition alleges that the tax for a sale shipped from an out-of-state location was actually sales tax and not use tax, evidence that there was participation in the sale by an in-state office of the retailer and that title to the goods passed to the purchaser inside California.
- 6. Name, title, and phone number of the contact person.
- 7. The tax reporting periods involved.

"Petition" also includes an appeal by a jurisdiction based on a notification from LRAU that local taxes or district taxes previously allocated to it were misallocated and will be reallocated. Such a jurisdiction may object to that notification by submitting a written petition to the Allocation Group supervisor within 30 days of the date of mailing of the notification. The petition must include a copy of the notification and specify the reason the jurisdiction disputes it. If a jurisdiction does not submit such a petition within 30 days of the date of mailing of the notification, the notification by the LRAU is considered final as to the notified jurisdiction so notified.

#### Date of Knowledge 905.013

Shall be the date the inquiry of suspected improper distribution of local tax that contains the facts stated above is received by the Board, unless an earlier such date is operationally documented by the Board. If the IJC is not able to obtain the above minimum factual data, but provides a letter with the inquiry documenting IJC efforts to obtain each of the facts required above, the Board will use the date this inquiry is received as the date of knowledge.

#### **BOARD MANAGEMENT**

<del>905.014</del>

Consists of the Executive Director, Chief Counsel, Assistant Chief Counsel for Business Taxes, and the Deputy Director of the Sales and Use Tax Department.

#### **Substantially Affected Jurisdiction**

A "substantially affected jurisdiction" is a jurisdiction for which the decision on a petition would result in a decrease to its total allocation of 5 percent or more of its average quarterly allocation (generally determined with reference to the prior four calendar quarters) or of \$50,000 or more, and includes a jurisdiction whose allocation will be decreased solely as the result of a reallocation from the statewide and applicable countywide pools.

DEFINITIONS (CONT. 1) 905.010

#### **Notified Jurisdiction**

A "notified jurisdiction" is a jurisdiction that has been notified as a substantially affected jurisdiction. Once a jurisdiction is properly notified as a substantially affected jurisdiction, it maintains its status as a notified jurisdiction throughout the appeals process.

Note that the reallocation period may extend to the current day if the subject taxpayer remains engaged in the same activities covered by the petition, in which case, for purposes of this calculation, the reallocation period is regarded as extending to the end of the quarter in which the decision is issued. In such circumstances, the longer the appeals process takes to resolve, the more local tax will be at issue. Thus, for example, a jurisdiction that is not notified as a substantially affected jurisdiction when the Allocation Group issues its decision to grant a petition may later be over the notification threshold and thus be notified when the Decision and Recommendation is issued.

Another important thing to note is that for a reallocation that would be made of amounts originally allocated through a countywide pool, the calculation of whether a jurisdiction must be notified as a substantially affected jurisdiction is not based on the actual amount that was originally allocated to that jurisdiction through its countywide pool, or on the amount that may be reallocated if the ultimate decision is to reallocate funds, but rather is based on the "Pool Notification Threshold List" maintained and updated annually by LRAU.

This document lists, for each jurisdiction, the amount of countywide pool funds whose reallocation would result in the loss of sufficient revenue by that jurisdiction for it to constitute a substantially affected jurisdiction. The calculation is based on the average percentage of the countywide pool the jurisdiction received for the four calendar quarters of the year prior to the year of the list (e.g., the 2009 list is based on the four calendar quarters of 2008). That percentage is then used to determine the specific amount of countywide pool funds whose reallocation would result in a decrease in revenue to the jurisdiction of \$50,000.00, and the specific amount of countywide pool funds whose reallocation would result in a decrease in revenue to the jurisdiction of 5 percent or more of its average quarterly allocation (also based on the four calendar quarters prior to the year of the list). The lower of these two figures is the dollar amount of pool funds whose reallocation would result in that jurisdiction's being substantially affected, and is the amount shown for that jurisdiction on the Pool Notification Threshold List.

The first step in determining which jurisdictions must be notified because they are substantially affected by a decision is to determine the amount of funds from the applicable countywide pool that the decision recommends be reallocated. Any jurisdiction sharing in that countywide pool whose threshold number does not exceed the amount of the pool to be reallocated will be substantially affected by the decision and must be notified. (The same analysis is done to decide who must be notified of a Board hearing, except the comparison is to the amount of pool funds that would be reallocated if the BOE grants the petition.) For example, if the Allocation Group issues a decision finding that a petition should be granted reallocating \$1,070,000.00 of County A's pool funds, it would notify all jurisdictions sharing in the countywide pool of County A whose threshold amount reflected on the applicable list does not exceed \$1,070,000.00.

DEFINITIONS (CONT. 2) 905.010

Thereafter, if a decision to reallocate funds originally allocated through a countywide pool becomes final, the actual amount reallocated will be based on the percentage of the pool that each pool participant receives for the quarter prior to the quarter in which the reallocation is made.

#### **SUBMITTING INQUIRIES PETITIONS**

905.020

To expedite processing, requests should be submitted by the inquiring-petitioning jurisdiction or consultant (IJC) on Form BOE-549-L, Claimed Incorrect Distribution of Local Tax - Long Form, or Form BOE-549-S, Claimed Incorrect Distribution of Local Tax - Short Form. The Form BOE 549-L is used for complex local tax reallocation issues such as sales tax vs. use tax, place of sale, or other complex issues where more information is needed. The Form BOE 549-S is used for simple tax reallocation questions having to do with taxpayers' business addresses or other less complex matters. These forms are available on the BOE website. All inquiries petitions are to be sent directly to headquarters, rather than to a district office. Inquiries Petitions should be mailed to:

Allocation Group Board of Equalization 450 N Street, MIC 39 P.O. Box 942879 Sacramento, CA 94279-0039

(For inquiries under Revenue and Taxation Code section 6066.3, see CPPM 905.090.)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF INQUIRY PETITION/DATE OF KNOWLEDGE \_\_\_\_\_\_905.030 It is tThe Allocation Group 's Policy towill promptly acknowledge inquiries petitions, within 30 calendar days of receipt by the Board. Inquiries which will be logged in by permit number (if any), jurisdiction (if known), and consultant firm (if any).

If the inquiry contains sufficient factual data to support the probability that local tax has been erroneously allocated and distributed (as stated above under the definition for Claim/Inquiry of Incorrect or Non-Distribution of Local Tax, CPPM 905.010), the date for knowledge will be the date the inquiry was received by the Board unless there is an earlier date operationally documented by the BOE, the date the Allocation Group receives a valid petition is the "date of knowledge," which is a date that is critical for determining the beginning of the allocation period. (RTC section 7209 (statute of limitations for these petitions)). Where a misallocation that is reasonably covered by the petition is confirmed based on additional facts or evidence supplied by the petitioner or otherwise learned as a direct result of investigating the petition, the date of knowledge remains the date the Allocation Group received the petition.

A\_n inquirypotential misallocation is "operationally documented" by the Board when a Board BOE employee questions the allocation based on information contained in Board BOE files (see CPPM 905.070). In such cases, the operationally documented date of knowledge will be the date the employee questionsed the allocation, not the date of the information contained in Board BOE files. Since there should be written evidence establishing the date on which the Board BOE obtained knowledge of an improper distribution, this date of knowledge should be properly documented and any applicable forms, such as Form BOE-523, Tax Return and/or Account Adjustment Notice, (see CPPM 335.000) should be completed.

As noted in CPPM 905.090 below, an inquiry received from an IJC that is a duplicate of one submitted by the same city to a district office pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code Section 6066.3 will not be processed. In such case, the date of knowledge established under section 6066.3 will control. If a petition regarding suspected improper distribution of local tax under the procedures set forth above and a submission under RTC section 6066.3 are both filed for the same alleged improper distribution, only the earliest submission will be processed as a valid appeal, with its date of receipt establishing the date of knowledge for the alleged improper distribution (unless there is an even earlier operationally documented date of knowledge). If the inquiry does not contain sufficient facts, and if the IJC has made a good faith effort to obtain sufficient facts but has been unable to do so, the IJC should include a letter with the inquiry, indicating what it has done to obtain those facts. If such a letter is provided and accepted, the Board will use the date the inquiry was received as the date of knowledge.

#### NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

905.040

After an inquiry has been reviewed, the IJC will be notified of the results.

#### APPROVED REALLOCATIONS

905.041

If staff's investigation confirms a misallocation and the recommended reallocation is less than five thousand dollars, a fund transfer will be processed.

All recommended reallocations over five thousand dollars (\$5,000) must be approved by the auditor's supervisor. Reallocations based on inquiries over twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) must be approved by the Refund Section Supervisor. Reallocations based on inquiries over fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) must be approved by the Headquarters Operations Manager. Once the reallocation is approved at the appropriate level, the fund transfer will be processed. A monthly recap of all approved reallocations will be maintained.

#### **DENIED REALLOCATIONS**

905.042

If the auditor recommends that the reallocation request be denied, his or her supervisor will review the recommendation. If the supervisor upholds the denial, the IJC can request subsequent review by the Refund Section Supervisor, the Local Tax Appeals Auditor, and subsequently by a Board Management team, as described below. The IJC can also file a petition for hearing by the Board after the staff's process is complete, as described below.

#### **REVIEW PROCESS**

905.050

AUDITOR'S INVESTIGATION REVIEW BY THE ALLOCATION GROUP

905.051050

#### Investigation and initial decision

Inquiries Petitions accepted for investigation—will be coded for type of alleged misallocation and assigned to an auditor. Assignments may coincide with investigations handled by the Local Revenue Allocation SectionLRAU. (Note that for assignments coinciding with investigations handled by LRAU, the LRAU Supervisor may be consulted.) The auditor will attempt to resolve all inquiries through communication with the taxpayers including contacting the "contact person" identified in the IJC inquirypetition or other such taxpayer personnel. If for some reason a satisfactory response cannot be obtained, the inquiry petition may be referred to the appropriate district office for action. Whenever any action is taken, such as writing to the taxpayer for information or, if necessary, referring the inquirypetition to the district office, this action will be noted in the log with the appropriate follow-up date (45 days for taxpayers, 60 days for in-state district offices, and 90 days for out-of-state district offices). A copy of any correspondence will be sent to the IJCpetitioner. The follow-ups for each week will be distributed each Monday morning to the auditor for appropriate action.

Note that if at any level of review prior to the Board hearing, it is determined that additional staff investigation is warranted prior to making a decision, a request for such investigation should be directed to the appropriate district office or Board auditor and the IJC will be notified of the results.

After a petition has been investigated, the Allocation Group will prepare a written decision to grant the petition, deny the petition, or grant the petition in part and deny it in part. The written decision will include the basis for that decision and the date of knowledge, and if that date is other than the date the petition was received, will include the basis for that date. The Allocation Group will send its decision to the petitioner and, if applicable, any substantially affected jurisdiction.

If a petition is denied, in whole or in part, the petitioner may submit to the Allocation Group a written objection to the decision, and if the petition is granted, in whole or in part, a substantially affected jurisdiction may likewise submit to the Allocation Group a written objection to the decision. Any such objection must be submitted within 30 days from the mailing of the Allocation Group's decision, or within a period of extension as explained below.

If no timely objection is submitted, the decision of the Allocation Group is final as to the petitioner and all notified jurisdictions.

#### **Delayed Investigation – Petitioner's Recourse**

If the Allocation Group does not issue a decision within six months of the date it receives a valid petition, the petitioner may request that the Allocation Group issue its decision without regard to the status of its investigation. Within 90 days of receiving such a request, the Allocation Group will issue its decision based on the information in its possession.

#### **Second Review by the Allocation Group**

If the petitioner or a notified jurisdiction submits a timely written objection to the decision of the Allocation Group, the Allocation Group will consider the objection and issue a written supplemental decision to grant the objection, deny the objection, or grant the objection in part and deny it in part, along with the basis for that decision. A copy of the supplemental decision will be mailed to the petitioner, to any notified jurisdiction, and to any other jurisdiction that is substantially affected by the supplemental decision.

The petitioner or any notified jurisdiction may appeal the supplemental decision of the Allocation Group by submitting a written objection to the Allocation Group within 30 days of the date of the supplemental decision (or within a period of extension as explained below). Such an objection must state the basis for the objecting jurisdiction's disagreement with the supplemental decision and include all additional information in its possession that supports its position. If the petitioner

AUDITOR'S INVESTIGATION REVIEW BY THE ALLOCATION GROUP (CONT.) 905.051050 or any notified jurisdiction timely appeals the supplemental decision of the Allocation Group, the Allocation Group will prepare the file and forward it to the Appeals Division for the holding of an appeals conference.

If no timely objection is submitted, the supplemental decision of the Allocation Group is final as to the petitioner and all notified jurisdictions.

#### **Extensions of time**

The petitioner or any notified jurisdiction may request a 30-day extension to submit a written objection to either a decision or supplemental decision issued by the Allocation Group. The request must:

- 1. Provide a reasonable explanation for the requesting jurisdiction's inability to submit its objection within 30 days,
- 2. Be copied to all other jurisdictions to whom the Allocation Group mailed a copy of its decision or supplemental decision, and
- 3. Be received by the Allocation Group within 30 days of the date of the decision or supplemental decision.

Within five business days of receipt of the request, the Allocation Group will mail notification to the petitioner and all notified jurisdictions whether the request is granted or denied. If the request is granted, the time for the petitioner and all notified jurisdictions to submit a written objection is extended to the 60<sup>th</sup> day after the date of the mailing of the Allocation Group's decision or supplemental decision. If the request for extension is denied, the time for the petitioner and any notified jurisdiction to file an objection to the Allocation Group's decision or supplemental decision is extended to 10 days after the mailing of the notice denying the extension.

#### REVIEW BY THE ALLOCATION GROUP SUPERVISOR

905.052

The Allocation Group will investigate all accepted inquiries. If the Allocation Group concludes that a misallocation has not occurred and recommends that a request for reallocation be denied, the IJC will be notified of the recommendation and allowed 30 days from the date of mailing of the notice of denial to contact the Allocation Group Supervisor to discuss the denial. (Note: with assignments that may coincide with investigations handled by the Local Revenue Allocation Section, the Supervisor of the Local Revenue Allocation Section may be consulted. The Allocation Group's notification that a misallocation has not occurred must state the specific facts on which the conclusion is based. If the IJC contacts the Allocation Group Supervisor, the IJC must state the specific facts on which its disagreement is based, and submit all additional information in its possession at the time that supports its position.

#### REVIEW BY THE REFUND SECTION SUPERVISOR

905.053

If the Allocation Group Supervisor upholds the denial, the IJC will be advised in writing of the decision and that it has 30 days from the date of mailing of the decision to file a "petition for reallocation" with the Refund Section Supervisor. The petition for reallocation must state the specific reasons for disagreement with the Allocation Group Supervisor's findings. The Refund Section Supervisor will review the request for reallocation and will determine if any additional staff investigation is warranted prior to making a decision. If no basis for adjustment is found, the complete record containing all documentation in the file related to the specific appeal will be forwarded to the Local Tax Appeals Auditor and the IJC will be mailed copies of documentation

related to the specific appeal that were not previously provided, consistent with confidentiality requirements (see CPPM 901.050 Non-Disclosable Information.)

#### REVIEW BY THE LOCAL TAX APPEALS AUDITOR

905.054

After the petition is forwarded to the Local Tax Appeals Auditor, a conference between the Local Tax Appeals Auditor and the IJC will be scheduled. The IJC may, however, at its option, provide a written brief in addition to, or instead of, attending the conference. If a conference is held, the Local Tax Appeals Auditor will consider oral arguments, as well as review material previously presented by both the IJC and the Sales and Use Tax Department (SUTD). Unless the Local Tax Appeals Auditor determines that there is the need for additional investigation he or she will base his or her decisions on the IJC's brief, Board staff input, and the information contained in the record. The Local Tax Appeals Auditor will prepare a written Decision and Recommendation (D&R) detailing the facts and law involved and the conclusions reached. The D&R will be sent to the IJC and the SUTD.

#### REVIEW BY BOARD MANAGEMENT

<del>905.05!</del>

If the D&R's recommendation is to deny the petition, the IJC will have 30 days from the date of mailing of the D&R to file a written request for review of the D&R with Board management. The request must state the specific reasons for disagreement with the D&R and include any additional information that supports its position. Board management will only consider the petition and will not meet with the IJC. The IJC will be notified in writing of the Board management's decision. If a written request for review of the D&R is not filed with Board management within the 30-day period, the D&R becomes final at the expiration of that period.

#### **REVIEW BY BOARD MEMBERS**

905.056

If Board management's decision is adverse to the IJC, the IJC may file a petition for hearing by the Board. The petition for hearing must state the specific reasons for disagreement with Board management's findings.

#### **PETITION FOR HEARING**

905.057

The IJC shall file a petition for hearing with the Board Proceedings Division within 90 days of the date of mailing of Board management's decision. If a petition for hearing is not filed within the 90-day period, the Board management's decision becomes final at the expiration of that period.

#### PERSONS TO BE NOTIFIED OF THE BOARD HEARING

905.058

After receiving the IJC's petition for hearing, the Board Proceedings Division will notify the IJC and the following persons of the Board hearing:

- 1. The taxpayer(s) whose allocations are the subject of the petition.
- 2.All jurisdictions that would be substantially affected if the Board does not uphold the taxpayer's original allocation (including the jurisdictions within the statewide and countywide pools that would gain or lose money solely as a result of a reallocation to or from the pools in which they participate). A jurisdiction is\_"substantially affected" if its total reallocation would increase or decrease by the amount of 5% of its average quarterly allocation (generally, the prior four calendar quarters) or \$50,000, whichever is less, as a result of a reallocation of the taxpayer's original allocation.

The notification letter will state that the claimed misallocation is being placed on the Board's Hearing Calendar to determine the proper allocation and that the IJC and all jurisdictions so notified are considered parties to the hearing.

#### THE HEARING AND PARTIES TO THE HEARING

905.059

The petitioning IJC and all jurisdictions notified of the Board hearing pursuant to the prior section are parties to the Board hearing. The taxpayer, however, shall not be considered a "party" within the meaning set forth above unless it actively participates in the hearing process by either filing a brief or making a presentation at the hearing. The hearing shall be conducted in accordance with Regulations 5070 to 5087 of the Rules of Practice. The Board will make a final decision at the hearing on the proper allocation. The Board's decision exhausts all parties' administrative remedies on the matter.

The Headquarters Local Revenue Allocation Section (LRAS) is responsible for maintaining a threshold notification list with the computed threshold notification amount and pool percentages for each jurisdiction. This list is reviewed and updated by LRAS once every calendar year. For questions regarding this threshold list contact the LRAS.

TIME LIMITATIONS 905.060

An IJC will be limited to one 30-day extension of the time limit established for each level of review through the Board management level.

If action is not taken beyond acknowledgment on any inquiry for a period of six months at any level of review, the IJC may request advancement to the next level of review. For the purpose of these procedures, "action" means taking the steps necessary to resolve the inquiry.

By following the time limits set forth above, any date of knowledge established by the original inquiry will remain open even if additional supporting information is provided prior to closure. If the time limits or any extensions are not met, or if closure has occurred, any additional supporting documentation submitted will establish a new date of knowledge as of the date of receipt of the new information.

#### **REVIEW BY APPEALS DIVISION**

905.060

Where the Allocations Group has forwarded a file to the Appeals Division for the holding of an appeals conference, the Appeals Division will coordinate with the Case Management Section of the Board Proceedings Division, who will schedule the appeals conference and mail notice of that conference to the petitioner, all notified jurisdictions, and the Sales and Use Tax Department (SUTD).

#### **Return of Petition to SUTD**

The petitioner or any notified jurisdiction may continue to discuss the dispute with SUTD staff after the petition is referred to the Appeals Division. If, as a result of such discussions or otherwise, SUTD decides the supplemental decision of the Allocation Group was incorrect or that further investigation is warranted, it will so notify the Appeals Division, the petitioner, and all notified jurisdictions.

If SUTD sends such notice to the Appeals Division no later than 30 days prior to the appeals conference, the Appeals Division will suspend its review and will return the petition to SUTD. Thereafter, SUTD will issue a second supplemental decision, or will return the petition to the Appeals Division along with a report of its further investigation, if appropriate, for the review and decision of the Appeals Division.

#### **REVIEW BY APPEALS DIVISION**

(CONT. 1) 905.060

If SUTD sends such notice to the Appeals Division less than 30 days prior to the appeals conference, the Appeals Division will decide whether the petition should be returned to SUTD or

should remain with the Appeals Division, and will notify the parties accordingly. If the petition is returned to SUTD, SUTD will thereafter issue a second supplemental decision, or will return the petition to the Appeals Division along with a report of its further investigation, if appropriate, for the review and decision of the Appeals Division.

Where SUTD issues a second supplemental decision, it will send a copy of the decision to the petitioner, any notified jurisdiction, and any other jurisdiction that is substantially affected by the second supplemental decision, any of whom may appeal the second supplemental decision by submitting a written objection within 30 days of the date of mailing of that supplemental decision, or within a period of authorized extension. If no such timely objection is submitted, the second supplemental decision is final as to the petitioner and all notified jurisdictions.

#### **Appeals Conference**

The appeals conference is not an adversarial proceeding, but rather is an informal discussion where the petitioner, any notified jurisdictions who wish to participate, and SUTD have the opportunity to explain their respective positions regarding the relevant facts and law to the Appeals Division conference holder. See Regulation 1807(c)(3) for procedures for local tax appeals (Regulation 1828 applies to appeals of distributions under the Transactions and Use Tax Law and is essentially identical to Regulation 1807; for convenience, this CPPM chapter only refers to Regulation 1807).

#### **Decision and Recommendation**

Within 90 days after the final submission of information authorized by Regulation 1807(c)(3), the Appeals Division will issue a written Decision and Recommendation (D&R) setting forth the applicable facts and law, and the conclusions of the Appeals Division. The BOE Chief Counsel may allow up to 90 additional days to prepare the D&R upon request of the Appeals Division. Both the request and the Chief Counsel's response granting or denying the request for additional time must be in writing and copies provided to the petitioner, all notified jurisdictions, and SUTD. A copy of the D&R will be mailed to the petitioner, to all notified jurisdictions, to any other jurisdiction that will be substantially affected by the D&R, and to SUTD.

#### **Request for Board Hearing**

The petitioner or any notified jurisdiction may appeal the D&R by submitting a written request for Board hearing within 60 days of the date of mailing of the D&R. Such a request must state the basis for the jurisdictions' disagreement with the D&R and include all additional information in its possession that supports its position.

#### **Request for Reconsideration**

The petitioner, any notified jurisdiction, or SUTD may also appeal the D&R by submitting a written request for reconsideration (RFR) to the Appeals Division within the same 60-day period during which a timely request for hearing may be submitted. If an RFR is submitted within this period, the Appeals Division will issue a Supplemental D&R (SD&R) to consider the request, after obtaining whatever additional information or arguments from the parties that it deems appropriate. Where a Board hearing has been timely requested and an RFR is submitted more than 60 days after the mailing of the D&R, the Appeals Division will determine whether it should issue an SD&R in response. If not, a Board hearing will be held pursuant to the prior request.

#### **Supplemental Decision and Recommendation**

Whether or not an RFR is submitted, at any time prior to the time the recommendation in the D&R or prior SD&R is acted on by SUTD as a final matter or the BOE has held an oral hearing on the petition, the Appeals Division may issue an SD&R as it deems necessary to augment, clarify, or correct the information, analysis, or conclusions contained in the D&R or any prior SD&R.

Where the Appeals Division issues an SD&R (whether because an RFR was filed within 60 days of the mailing of the D&R or a prior SD&R or because the Appeals Division decides issuance of an SD&R is appropriate in response to a "late" RFR or on its own initiative), a copy of the SD&R will be mailed to the petitioner, to all notified jurisdictions, to any other jurisdiction that will be substantially affected by the SD&R, and to SUTD. Appealing the SD&R (i.e., requesting a Board hearing or reconsideration) is the same as for appealing a D&R.

#### Finality of D&R or SD&R

If no RFR or request for Board hearing is submitted within 60 days of the date of mailing of the D&R or any SD&R, the D&R or SD&R (as applicable) is final as to the petitioner and all notified jurisdictions unless the Appeals Division issues a SD&R prior to the time SUTD acts on the recommendation in the D&R or prior SD&R as a final matter.

## APPEAL RIGHTS OF JURISDICTIONS THAT WILL LOSE REVENUE AS THE RESULT OF A REALLOCATION

<del>905.070</del>

If at any time during the process prior to the Board hearing, the Board's investigation determines that a misallocation has occurred, any jurisdiction that will lose 5% of its average quarterly allocation (generally, the prior four calendar quarters) or \$50,000, whichever is less, will be informed of the decision and be allowed 30 days from the date of mailing of the notice, to contact the Allocation Group to discuss the proposed reallocation. The losing jurisdiction may follow the same appeals procedure as described in CPPM 905.050 and CPPM 905.060. "Losing jurisdiction" includes a gaining jurisdiction where the original decision in favor of the gaining jurisdiction was overturned in favor of a previously losing jurisdiction. The reallocation will be postponed until the period for the losing jurisdiction to request a hearing with the Allocation Group has expired. If the losing jurisdiction contacts the Allocation Group prior to the Board hearing, and subsequently petitions the proposed reallocation, the reallocation postponement will be extended pending the outcome of the petition.

There are times when Board staff becomes aware of a misallocation through independent means, such as an audit of a taxpayer, review of a return, a letter from a taxpayer or his or her representative or in some other manner. In these situations jurisdictions losing 5% of its average quarterly allocation (generally, the prior four calendar quarters) or \$50,000, whichever is less, will be informed of the proposed reallocation, and if a delay is requested, allowed 30 days to request a meeting with the Allocation Group Supervisor. These jurisdictions may follow the appeals procedure described in CPPM 905.050.

#### **REVIEW BY BOARD MEMBERS**

905.070

If the petitioner or any notified jurisdiction submits to the Board Proceedings Division a timely written request for Board hearing (i.e., within 60 days of the date of mailing of the D&R or SD&R) the Board Proceedings Division will notify SUTD, the petitioner, any notified jurisdiction, any other jurisdiction that would be substantially affected if the petition were granted, and the

taxpayer(s) whose allocations are the subject of the petition, that the petition for reallocation of local tax is being scheduled for a Board hearing to determine the proper allocation.

SUTD, the petitioner, and all jurisdictions notified of the Board hearing are parties to the Board hearing. The taxpayer, however, is not a "party" to the Board hearing unless it actively participates in the hearing process by either filing a brief or making a presentation at the hearing.

To the extent not inconsistent with Regulation 1807, the hearing will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 5 of the Board of Equalization Rules for Tax Appeals (Regulations 5510 - 5576). Briefs may be submitted for the hearing in accordance with the Rules for Tax Appeals sections 5270 and 5271. The Board's final decision on the petition exhausts all parties' administrative remedies on the matter.

#### LIMITATION PERIOD FOR REDISTRIBUTIONS

905.080

Redistributions (also known as reallocations) shall cannot be made of include amounts originally distributed earlier than two quarterly periods prior to the quarterly period in which the Board obtains knowledge of the improper distribution quarter of the date of knowledge. (RTC section 7209, Reg. 1807(c).) It should be noted that this does not generally mean that the redistribution is limited to taxes incurred two quarters prior to the date of knowledge because this period is based on the date of distribution, not the date the tax was incurred or the date the tax was remitted to the BOE. Generally, distributions are made the quarter following the period for which the tax is reported and paid. Taxes generally must be reported and paid by the last day of the month following the quarter incurred. Thus, the two-quarter limitation period for

#### LIMITATION PERIOD FOR REDISTRIBUTIONS

redistribution of local tax, which is based on the distribution date, allows redistributions of local tax incurred during the three quarters immediately preceding the calendar quarter of the date of knowledge.

For example, on March 15, 2008, City A files a petition for reallocation of local tax, asserting that in November, 2006, a specific taxpayer who opened a business making over-the-counter retail sales in City A has not allocated any local tax to City A. The Allocation Group issues a decision granting the petition based on its findings that petitioner is correct and that the taxpayer timely reported and paid local tax, but improperly allocated the tax to City B. The petition date, March 15, 2008, is the date of knowledge. Since that is in the first quarter 2008, the limitation period extends back two more quarters, to distributions made during the third quarter 2007. Since the local taxes for the second quarter 2007 were distributed during the third quarter 2007, pursuant to the decision of the Allocation Group, local tax will be reallocated to City A beginning with the local taxes incurred during the second quarter 2007, beginning April 1, 2007. The local tax incurred by the taxpayer's location in City A for the periods prior to April 1, 2007 (i.e., November 2006 through March 2007) were reported and paid with the return due January 31, 2007, and April 30, 2007, and those taxes were distributed during the first and second quarters 2007, respectively, *more* than two quarters prior to the quarter of the date of knowledge. Therefore, reallocation of such taxes is barred.

The discussion above is based on the taxpayer's actual payment of tax when due. However, the BOE cannot distribute local tax until such tax is remitted by the taxpayer. Thus, where a taxpayer files a timely "non-remittance" return (without payment of the reported tax due) with all required local tax allocation schedules, there is no local tax revenue to distribute. When these funds are remitted, they will be distributed in accordance with the taxpayer's return, and it will be that date of actual distribution that is relevant for purposes of the date of knowledge analysis, not the date the tax was incurred. For example, same facts as in the prior paragraph except that the taxpayer filed a non-remittance return for the fourth quarter 2006 (November and December 2006), not paying that amount until June 15, 2007. The taxpayer timely paid the tax reported on all later returns. Thus, since the taxes incurred for the fourth quarter 2006 were not paid until June 2007, they were not distributed until the third quarter 2007, reallocation of such taxes is permitted for the date of knowledge in the first quarter 2008. However, since the taxes incurred for the next quarter (first quarter 2007) were distributed more than two quarters prior to the quarter of the date of knowledge (i.e., distributed during the second quarter 2007), reallocation of such local tax is barred.

The following schedule shows the remittance and distribution dates for a typical four-quarter period. The term "Remittance Date" means the date on which the BOE receives a taxpayer remittance. The term "Distribution Date" means the quarter in which the BOE makes payment of revenue to local jurisdictions. Distributions are made four times per year, on the first Friday of March, June, September, and December.

Remittance Date	<b>Distribution Date</b>
Feb. 13 - May 13	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
May 14 – Aug 13	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
Aug. 14 – Nov. 13	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
Nov. 14 – Feb. 12	1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter

#### **APPLICATION TO RTC SECTION 6066.3 INQUIRIES**

905.090

The procedures set forth above for submitting information to the Board concerning improper distributions—are in addition to, but separate and apart from, any procedures established under the authority of Revenue and Taxation Code RTC section 6066.3 for making inquiries regarding improper distributions. That section authorizes each jurisdiction to collect and transmit to the BOE information from persons desiring to engage in business in that jurisdiction for the purpose of selling tangible personal property. The information submitted serves as (1) a preliminary application for seller's permit, (2) notification to the BOE by the local jurisdiction of a person desiring to engage in business in that jurisdiction for the purpose of selling tangible personal property, and (3) notice to the BOE for purposes of redistribution.

If inquiries As noted above, where a petition regarding suspected improper distribution of local tax are is received both filed under the procedures set forth above and a submission is also made under RTC section 6066.3 for the same alleged improper distribution, duplicate inquiries will not be processed only the earliest submission will be processed, with the date of knowledge established under the procedures applicable to the earliest submission. The procedures set forth in subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of Regulation 1807, which are discussed above, also apply to appeals from reallocation determinations made under RTC section 6066.3.

A subsequent inquiry will not be considered a "duplicate inquiry" when that subsequent inquiry does not contain the same reasons for error as in another inquiry for the same taxpayer by the same city. The date of the earliest inquiry shall be controlling as to whether the request is to be handled under the provisions set forth above or section 6066.3, and the date of knowledge shall be established under the controlling procedure.

The terms and procedures starting with the review by the Refund Section Supervisor up to and including the review and final decision by the Board Members shall also apply to appeals from reallocation determinations made under Revenue and Taxation Code section 6066.3.

The provisions set forth above shall apply to reallocation inquiries and appeals filed after January 1, 2003. Inquiries and appeals filed prior to this date shall continue to be subject to existing inquiries and appeals procedures contained in the "Process for Reviewing Reallocation Inquiries" (June 1996, amended October 1998). However, for inquiries filed prior to January 1, 2003, the IJC may elect in writing to proceed under the provisions set forth above as to appeals not already decided or initiated. In such cases, failure to make such written election prior to appealing to the next step of review under the existing procedures shall constitute an election not to proceed under the provisions set forth above. If written election to proceed under the provisions set forth above become applicable the date the election is received by the Board. Neither election shall be subject to revocation.

## KNOWLEDGE OF INCORRECT LOCAL TAX ALLOCATIONS OTHER THAN FROM INQUIRIES BY LOCAL JURISDICTIONS AND CONSULTANTS

906.000

The Board of Equalization will be considered to have knowledge of an improper distribution when an employee of the Board has such knowledge. To establish a date of knowledge (DOK), there must be sufficient factual data to indicate the probability that local tax has been erroneously allocated (see CPPM 905.010 and Regulation 1807 (a)(2)).

A DOK of improper distribution can be established using either of the following two methods:

- The Board receives an inquiry from a local jurisdiction or its representative (see CPPM 905.000).
- An employee of the Board in the course of his or her duties (e.g., field audit or investigation or review of a return) discovers factual information sufficient to support the probability that an erroneous allocation of local tax may have occurred, and that allocation is questioned by the Board employee. A DOK is established as of the date the employee questions the allocation (see CPPM 906.020). This date shall be considered "operationally documented by the Board" see RTC 1807(a)(3) and CPPM 905.030).

There should be written evidence establishing the date on which the Board obtained knowledge of an improper distribution. Therefore, this date of knowledge shall be properly documented on the appropriate letter, memo, or applicable forms.

#### FACTS IN THE RECORDS OF THE BOARD

906.010

Facts already in the records of the Board do not in and of themselves constitute knowledge of an erroneous local tax allocation. Such knowledge arises when the taxpayer, an employee of the Board, an Inquiring Jurisdiction and Their Consultant (IJC), or some other person questions the correctness of the local tax allocation.

To constitute knowledge by the Board, it is not necessary that the employee of the Board obtaining the knowledge be absolutely certain that the local tax allocation was erroneous. For example, the employee may refer the information upon which the decision is based to the supervisor or to headquarters for final decision or the employee may secure additional information from the taxpayer. It is not necessary to know the specific amount of tax or tax measure involved at the time knowledge of an improper distribution is first obtained. This may be determined later.

#### FACTS DISCOVERED DURING A FIELD AUDIT OR INVESTIGATION

906.020

There should be written evidence establishing the date on which the Board obtained knowledge of an improper distribution.

If during the course of a field audit or field investigation a Board employee becomes aware that there is a probability of an erroneous local tax allocation, the DOK will be the first day the Board employee became aware of such probability that the local tax was erroneously allocated. It is not necessary to complete the investigation or the audit to establish a DOK.

The Board employee should write a memorandum describing the type of error that occurred and the type of transaction involved and complete appropriate forms as needed. Specific amounts of tax or measure need not be included. The Board employee shall date and sign the memorandum. The memorandum shall become part of the audit working papers or field investigation report. On the local tax reallocation schedule submitted with the report of field audit there should be stated the date on which the Board obtained knowledge of the erroneous allocation. (See Audit Manual 0209.27.)

#### FACTS DISCOVERED DURING REVIEW OF A RETURN

906.030

If during the course of a review of a Sales and Use Tax Return the Board becomes aware that there is a probability of an erroneous local tax allocation, the DOK will be the first day the employee became aware of such probability that the local tax was erroneously allocated. This

DOK will only apply to the particular questioned jurisdictions on the return even though it may later be found that there are additional erroneous allocations on the same return. Different dates of knowledge shall be established if the employee becomes aware of additional misallocations.

LIMITATION PERIOD 906.040

Section 7209 of the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law provides as follows:

The Board may redistribute tax, penalty and interest distributed to a county or city other than the county or city entitled thereto, but such redistribution shall not be made as to amounts originally distributed earlier than two quarterly periods prior to the quarterly period in which the Board obtains knowledge of the improper distribution.

When the Board verifies improper distributions reported on returns, redistributions may be processed for amounts originally distributed no more than two quarterly periods preceding the quarterly period in which the Board obtains a DOK. Since local tax is generally distributed during the quarter following the period for which tax is reported, redistributions are usually processed for the three quarters immediately preceding the calendar quarter in which the DOK is acquired. For example, City A notifies the Board in a letter received on March 15, 1999, that Taxpayer X opened a business in that city in February 1998, but no tax has been allocated to that city from that taxpayer. The Board investigates the city's inquiry, finds that the city is correct, and that this taxpayer's local tax has been improperly allocated to City B. The investigation is completed on April 2, 1999. Although the verification is not made until the second quarterly period, the DOK (March 15) is in the first quarterly period. Accordingly, the Board will redistribute (reallocate) the local tax from City B to City A for the second, third, and fourth quarters 1998.

The Board cannot distribute local tax until payment is received from the taxpayer. A taxpayer may file a return and properly submit all required local tax allocation schedules, but if the taxpayer does not remit any funds, (called a "no remittance" return) there is no revenue to distribute. However, when these funds are remitted, they will be distributed in accordance with the taxpayer's return. Sometimes after distribution, it is discovered that the tax was not allocated in the appropriate manner. When questions arise involving the manner in which the tax was allocated, it is the period in which the tax was distributed rather than the period for which the tax was reported that is relevant. Revenue and Taxation Code section 7209 provides that redistribution of the local tax can be made for two quarterly periods prior to the quarterly period in which the Board obtains knowledge of the improper distribution. This means that any local tax distributed during the previous two quarters may be considered for redistribution. The date of distribution can be found under IRIS on the FND VA screen.

The following schedule shows the cash receipt dates of the distributions made during a typical four-quarter period. The term "Cash Receipt Date" means the date on which the Board receives a taxpayer remittance. The term "Distribution" means the payment of revenue to local jurisdictions and special tax districts. Since the cut-off date for each quarterly distribution is established as the ninth working day following the due date for quarterly returns, the actual cut-off date may vary in each year due to intervening week-ends or holidays. Nevertheless, this schedule may be used as a guide in determining the quarter of distribution for payments received with returns on a yearly or irregular basis, delinquent returns, or as a result of a billing:

Cash Receipt Date Quarter of Distribution

Nov. 14 – Feb. 12 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter

Revenue received with delinquent returns or in payment of a billing based on an incorrect return, field audit, or investigation presents a different problem. As previously stated, distributions made in one quarter cover tax reported on returns for the previous quarter. They also include revenues in payment of delinquent returns, and billings such as Audits and FBO's, etc., which were received at the same time. Therefore, with respect to these latter payments, the limitation on amounts subject to redistribution may extend beyond the usual period.

#### DISTRICT OFFICE RESPONSIBILITY

906.0510

As <u>previously statedexplained in CPPM 905.030</u>, <u>the district officea BOE</u> employee who discovers an error in the allocation of local tax should record the date that knowledge of the error was obtained.

If an error in allocation of local tax is discovered by the district office, the auditor or field representative should confine his or her report of the necessary redistribution to amounts originally distributed within the limitation period, provided by section 7209 of the Bradley-Burns Local Sales and Use Tax. Generally, this will consists explained above, which generally consists of tax reported for the three quarters immediately preceding the quarter in which the error was discovered unless the district office file contains evidence of late returns and payments on billings, in which case, the extent of the limitation period should be determined by based on the schedule in CPPM 9065.0480. If there is any question regarding the extent of the limitation period, the auditor or field representative should report only tax for the aforementioned three quarterly periods and depend on headquarters' review for notification if additional information is needed. However, every effort should be made to determine all amounts to be

redistributed during the original field investigation. Good judgement should be exercised to avoid spending any appreciable time on inconsequential adjustments. For additional instructions regarding Form BOE-414-L Auditor's Work Sheet Local Sales and Use Tax Allocation, -see Audit Manual 0209.000.

#### **HEADQUARTERS RESPONSIBILITY**

906.060015

Redistributions in Headquarters will be subject to the same review as redistributions that are received from district offices.

#### **Allocation Group**

In general, the Allocation Group will make all redistributions of local tax <u>and district taxes</u> as a result of <u>petitions from jurisdictions</u> <u>Inquiries from Jurisdictions and/or Consultants (IJC)</u>. The Allocation Group has the responsibility to examine all reports of errors in distribution that are received from district offices (<u>Board BOE</u> audits, reaudits, FBO's, <u>inquiries from IJC'spetitions from jurisdictions</u>, and inquiries filed under <u>RTC</u> section 6066.3) and verify by an examination of the master file, or any other records in Headquarters, that the report includes all amounts within the limitation period. If this examination discloses that the limitation period extends beyond the point covered by the report, and information regarding the amount to be

#### **HEADQUARTERS RESPONSIBILITY**

(CONT.) 906.<del>060</del>015

redistributed cannot be determined from the records in Headquarters, the necessary additional information will be requested from the district office.

#### Local Revenue Allocation Section Unit (LRAU)

The Local Revenue Allocation Section UnitLRAU handles redistributions of local tax and district taxes discovered during reviews of returns (CPPM 906.030), as well as redistributions resulting from corrections to the Tax Area Codes, exclusive of BoardBOE audits, reaudits, FBO's, inquiries petitions from IJC's jurisdictions (see CPPM 905.000), and inquiries filed under RTC section 6066.3 (see CPPM 905.090). LRAU processes all field audit redistributions of district taxes submitted by field offices.